DE COURCY, JOHN

D404203

Treated for mould contamination Traité contre la moisissure

Date:

Gept. 2013

-404203 ATTESTATION



P-NON-PERMANENT ACTIVE MILITIA OF CANADA

UN	IT (RES) REGTL. No. 40428
737	Surname? (Block letters) DECOURCY
	Christian names? JOHN STEPHEN
	Present address? 4745 QUEEN MARY RO. APT. 3.
	Phone No. DEX 2596
4.	
6.	Date of Birth?* 16.2.11. 5. British subject? Afes. Occupation? Garana Denver Co. Con. 7. Religion? R.C.
8.	Next of Kin Helen 9. Relationship? wife 1938
	Address as above.
10.	Previous Naval, Military or Air Force Service
	(Give particulars, quanneations, etc.)
Heig	tht 5-6 / CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION Weight /33 Chest max 35 min.
Desc	criptive marks
	I have examined the above named man in accordance with instructions laid down in Instructions for
Date	R.C.A.M.C. and C.D.C. 1937 Appendix V and find him Signature Signature R.C.A.M.C. and C.D.C. 1937 Appendix V and find him Category Coppt. R.C.A.M.C.
Date	DECLARATION TO BE MADE ON ATTESTATION
	I, the undersigned of the Chapter de Coursy do sincerely and solemnly declare
that	to the best of my knowledge and belief, the above answers (made by me) to the foregoing questions true; that I am willing to be attested for the term of three years or until legally discharged, and do
unde	erstand the nature and terms of this engagement, that I will safeguard all clothing, arms and equiptissued to me and will return same when required, and that I will report any change in address of
	elf, or my next of kin to my Commanding Officer.
	OATH TO BE TAKEN
(or s	I, John Stephen de bource do sincerely promise and swear olemaly declared that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty.
•••••	Julian Ball Bull Celes Coll
Data	Signature of Witness Signature of Man day of June 1942at membership
Date	CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER
NEX.	The recruit above-named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answers to any of the above
quest	tions he would be liable to be punished by law. The above questions were then read to the recruit in presence. I have taken care that he understands each question and that his answer to each question been duly entered and replied to, and the said recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken
the o	Signature of Magistrate, Justice of Peace, or Attesting Officer

M.F.B. 235d

*To be shown day, month, year—Example:—25-8-39.

Statement of Services

Promotions, Reductions, Transfers, Casualties, Annual Training, Qualification Certificates, etc.	Effective Date	Authority for Entry	Signatures of Officers Certifying Correctness of entries
Accepted for Service with effect from			Merna &
1.0.5.	17/6/42.	2.0.33/Jh	Officer Commanding JK (KES) KECCE Sol Unit. 1716
appointed Alcer.	21/9/42	R.O. 59/42	RATERI: Sgr.
Camp 1942 Comfirmed Cpl	1. FEB 43	6.7/43	Parbellis Sgt. Tho. J. Storm- 292.
Rumoteil A/59h	2 FEB U3	KO.7/43	Mo- N. Olesten 29h
av Sergeant	5/apa/13	Lo. 19/43	Hos. J. Sloil ogh.
DRIVER CLASS III (Wheeled)	8 JUN 43	Co. 29/43	Oho. J. Stort. 294.
5.0.5. (Commissioned Kaule 7 th(R) Ruce Regr (17th DyRCH) CAC.	6 JUN 43	R.O. 31/43	Muchen Sat.
Medals and Decorations			
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NOTE.—These entries are to be made from time to time as they occur and certified by the Officer making the entry.

Attestations to be made out in duplicate, the original being forwarded to be filed in Regimental Orderly Room, the duplicate to be kept in the Battery, Squadron, Company, etc.

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Accepted for Service with effect from			
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•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••			Unit

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D-262 Rank Lieutenant Name DE COURCY, John S. No Unit Canadian Armoured CorpsDate of death 25th June, 1944 Farnham, P.Q. Died at Heart failure Cause Death W.HS Due. CPC.d 27-1-45 HQ 338-D-14 N/K Mrs. Helen De Courcy Relationship Widow Address 4745 Queen Mary Road, Apt. 3, Montreal Remains buried in Cemetery Cote des Neiges Montreal, P.O Grave location

BURIAL REPORT TO N.K.

RETURN TO BUR. OF STAT.

ROYAL MESSAGE DESP'D.

CAN. MESSAGE DESP'D.

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Present		(The whole name in full, Surname (IN BLOCK CAPITALS)	e last)	Profession or Occupation	Residence and Post Office Address IN FULL	Native Country (if born abroad state if British Subject)	Date of Birth	Married or Single		Branch of Service Number and Date of Certificate	Rank for which Recommended	Appointment to date from	How vacancy was caused
D-404203 Sgt.	John,	Steven, DeCOURCY	AND THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF	Assistan Manager	4745 t Queen Mary Rd. Apt. 3 Montreal	England	16 Feb. 1911	(1938)	NIL	NIL	Prov. 2nd Lieut.	7th June	Vice 2nd Lt. H.N.Cleworth Active Force
including M	of Education Intriculation sity Degrees	Colleges or S	chools Attended		From	DATES	To		Nature	of Course	Degrees o	r Educational C	Certificates Obtained
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	14 active service.										· MEI	DALS AND DE	CORATIONS
(See i revers	instructions on se side of Form)			Nil.								Nil.	May 1
that the correct.	above par	a British Subject and ticulars of myself are of this appointment.	Signature of Sqn. Bty. or Date	O.C.} Coy.		Reco		and Forw V.W.F	airweat	her), Majo	Date ing	Canada Gaze	This space for use at Extract No
	1///	11/1//							Military Di	strict No:4		tte N	Nation
	1 (CS	ignature of Appointee)	Signature of O.C. Regt.	(B.C.Hut	chison) Lt	.Col. Place	e Mont	real,	Que.,			0	d Defence
Date	7 June	1943	Date7:	th June 1	943	Date	12.th	June.	1943.	•••••••			Headqu
M. F. B. 2 100M—11-40 H.Q. 1772-3	(7871)	A Personal Property of the second sec	(Med	lical Certificate	on Reverse side mu	ist.be completed)							arters only

INSTRUCTIONS

READ THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

†*Strike out the term not applicable. The Squadron, Battery, Company or similar formation to which the appointee is to be posted, transferred, etc., should be shown in all cases where units of the Regiment or Brigade, etc., are not centralized.

Under appropriate Columns information in accordance with the following must be inserted.

- COLUMN No. 1—Whether holding any rank in the Canadian Militia, the Military or Air Forces of the British Empire. If so, rank, unit and force to be shown.
 - No. 2—Christian name (or names) and surname to be clearly inserted in full (surname last), particular attention to be given to correct spelling.
 - No. 3—The actual profession or occupation to be stated.
 - No. 5—If a naturalized British subject, how naturalization was obtained to be stated.
 - No. 6—Accuracy is essential as to the day, month and year of birth; verification may be necessary at a later date.
 - Nos. 3 and 9—All qualifications to be inserted.
 - No. 10-If a provisional or supernumerary appointment, it must always be so stated.
 - No. 11—Except under very special circumstances, appointments will not be antedated prior to the date of recommendation. If an antedate is recommended the reason therefor must accompany this Form.
 - No. 12—How vacancy was caused must be given, i.e., vice "——" promoted, transferred or retired as the case may be. "To complete establishment" is not correct after the establishment has once been completed.
 - No. 13—Degrees or Educational Certificates to be inserted in detail.
 - No. 14—Particulars of active service. To include information as to actual theatre of war in which services were performed, with dates.
 - No. 15—The person recommended must sign his name, showing that he consents to the appointment or promotion.
 - No. 16—Medical Certificate to be completed in compliance with paragraph 145 (v) K.R. (Canada), 1939.

a-In all instances this recommendation must be sent direct by the Squadron, Battery or Company Commander to the Officer Commanding the Regiment for his recommendation to the Officer Commanding Division or District. b—In all instances "Transfer Receipt" of Stores must accompany the recommendation for promotion, or the resignation of an Officer Commanding a unit. c—For full instructions see "The King's Regulations and Orders for the Canadian Militia, 1939".

N.B.—As this form is applicable to any Board of Officers or Committee or Court of Inquiry, the blank is to be filled in accordingly.

The signature of each Officer composing the Board, etc., should appear on the last page of this form in the space provided therefor.

PROCEEDINGS of a* Court of Inquiry.

assembled at 4185 Cote des Neiges Road, Montreal

on the 26th day of June 1944 at 2015 hours

by order of Lt.-Col. B. C. Hutchison, ED.

Commanding 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC

for the purpose of investigating and recording all

available evidence concerning the alleged death of

Lieut J. S. DeCourcy 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH)

CAC which occurred on or about Sun 25th June 1944 PRESIDENT

Major J. D. Ross 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC

MEMBERS

> Lieut H. U. Banks 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC

Lieut C. Hough
7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC

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TheCourthaving assembled pursuant to order, proceed to

collect evidence

Capt H. A. Newmark - Adjutant 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC having been duly sworn states:-

"I submit herewith copy of Part I Regimental Order No. 25 dated 21 Jun 44 calling a Regimental Parade for Sun 25 Jun 44 for a pre camp shoot at Farnham Ranges. (Appendix "B")

I have checked the Nominal Roll of those present on that day and find that Lt. J. S. DeCourcy of "A" Son was on parade.

At 1233 hours on Sun 25 Jun 44 while I was at the Farnham Ranges I was advised that Lt DeCourcy had collapsed a short distance away, and I immediately went over to see what the trouble was. riving at the scene I found and identified Lt De-Courcy lying on the ground with Capt Breitman 9 (R) Fd Amb RCAMC and Lt Bateman 9 (R) Fd Amb RCAMC practising artificial respiration on him. Lt DeCourcy' s face had assumed a purplish colour and a moment after I arrived I saw Lt Bateman check to make sure that the tongue had not fallen back and I saw that

M.F.B. 303 500M-12-42 (7535) H.Q. 1772-39-133

FIRST WITNESS:

FIRST WITNESS: (con'd)

it was in proper position. One of our men was despatched for an ambulance and the doctors continued artificial respiration until the arrival of the ambulance about 15 or 20 minutes later. drove to Farnham Military Hospital with Lt Bateman RCAMC and was present when Lt DeCourcy was carried into the hospital at 1305 hours. Capt Gingras, Medical Officer of A 12 CITC Farnham, made an examination with Lt Bateman and both pronounced Lt De-Courcy dead from heart failure. The Coroner for Bedford District, Dr P. Boileau, was called and issued a permit to remove the body to Montreal. I drove into Montreal by car with Lt H. U. Banks and instructed the ambulance supplied by A 12, to follow with the body and to report to the Amoury until the undertaker's arrangements could be made with the family. I reported to Lt McRae, Orderly Officer on duty at MD 4 and then attempted to locate members of Lt DeCourcy's family other than his wife. Failing in this Lt Banks & I finally contacted a Mrs Woodard, a friend and neighbour of the DeCourcy's and she came with us while I told Mrs DeCourcy what had happened. We obtained from Mrs DeCourcy the name and address of an uncle of hers and that of her mother. I sent the car after these relatives and brought them to the DeCourcy apartment. We went with Mr G Burns, the uncle, while he made the necessary arrangements with Thos. Kane's Funeral Parlours on Park Ave. All arrangements and commitments with the undertaker

All arrangements and commitments with the undertaker were made by Mr. Burns."

RP 83B has been complied with.

SECOND WITNESS:

Lieut H. G. Marpole - Troop Officer "A" Sqn 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC having been duly sworn states:-

"A month or two ago Lt DeCourcy complained to me that he had not been feeling very well. I suggested that he get a 'check up' by the MO. He replied that he was planning to have one by his own doctor.

On the train Sunday morning - June 25th Lt DeCourcy told me that unless he was feeling better by Camp time he doubted if he would attend this year, I asked him what was wrong, and he stated that he got short of breath when marching.

I then remembered our former conversation concerning a 'check up' and asked him if he had had one. He told me that he had, and that he had been told that everything was alright, that nothing had been found wrong.

On the march from Farnham station to the ranges, Lt Ross, Lt DeCourcy and I fell in and marched behind "A" Sqm. Lt. Growen, 2 i/c of the Sqn, was marching behind us.

SECOND WITNESS (con'd)

Shortly after we turned off the main highway on to the road leading past the Military Camps the CO gave the order "March at Ease" and Lt Ross, Lt DeCourcy and I entered into conversation.

About halfway between the permanent training Camp and the Reserve Army Training Camp Lt DeCourcy stated he was not feeling "so hot". I asked him what was wrong and he complained of a"burning sensation" in his throat. I suggested he fall out but he objected, stating he didn't think it necessary.

I signalled to Lt Growen who immediately came forward and took Lt DeCourcy out of the Sqn and over to the side of the road.

I did not see Lt DeCourcy again until after his collapse. Seeing a small group bending over a figure lying on the ground, and recalling the conversation and incidents of the morning, I realized that it might be Lt DeCourcy. I advised Lt Growen immediately and we both proceeded to where he was lying. When we arrived there was an officer of the RCAMC attending to Lt DeCourcy. Upon being informed that this officer was a doctor I felt that Lt. Decourcy was in the best possible hands. The Medical Corps officer was quickly joined by other members of the Medical Corps who proceeded to apply artificial respiration.

Learning from the doctor that Lt DeCourcy was, in his opinion, either dying or already dead, I went off to report to Major Ross, OC "A" Sqn, Lt Growen remaining with Lt DeCourcy."

Question. "Did you hear any protest by Lt DeCourcy when Lt Growen asked him to drop out of the parade?"

Answer. "No"

RP 83B has been complied with

THIRD WITNESS

Lieut T. D. Ross - Troop Officer "A" Sqn 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC having been duly sworn states:-

"Lt DeCourcy was one of the first officers I spoke to before the regiment formed up at 0800 hrs on Sunday morning Jun 25. I noticed him adjusting another officer's web equipment and when he got through I asked him to do the same for me, which he did cheerfully. He gave me the impression of being his usual self at the time.

On the train going to Farnham I sat with him part of the time and talked about Camp and other matters. He seemed cheerful and normal.

En route to the ranges, Lt DeCourcy, Lt Marpole and I marched together in the rear file of "A" Sqn

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THIRD WITNESS: (Con'd)

and after we had proceeded for about two miles I heard him speaking to Lt Marpole who was on the right flank.

I turned and said, "Don't you feel well, Johnnie", and he replied, "No, I don't feel so good, I don't know whether I'll be able to make it". He appeared rather paler than usual but did not seem to be visibly upset, I said, "You had better fall out", and he replied, "Oh, I guess I'll go on a little further". I said, "Don't be crazy, fall out right away, there's no sense in marching if you are feeling ill". At that point the Sqn 2 i/c, Lt Growen, came from the rear, took Lt DeCourcy by the arm and said, "Come on, Johnnie, fall out", or words to that effect, and that is the last time I saw him."

RP 83B has been complied with.

FOURTH WITNESS:

Lieut A Growen - 2 i/c "A" Sqn - 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC having been duly sworn states:-

"On the morning of June 25, 1944, while marching from Farnham station to the rifle range, Lts Marpole, Ross and DeCourcy were marching directly in front of me at the rear of "A" Sqn. About two miles from Farnham station Lt Marpole indicated to me that Lt. DeCourcy was not feeling well. I immediately ordered him to fall out and fell out with him, We rested at the side of the road for about ten minutes and then started to walk slowly towards the range.

During our rest at the roadside and the short walk following, Lt DeCourcy indicated that in the last few weeks he had been under a strain in view of the recent death of his father and the pressure of his ordinary duties. He said that he had undergone a medical examination a short time ago and was pronounced quite well. At no time did he complain of any particular painful symptom, but reiterated that he felt exceedingly fatigued.

At this point Lt S Ferrie offered us a list in his jeep and we rode beside the marching column to the main entrance to Farnham Camp, where Lt De-Courcy transferred to a truck which was going to the ranges. This was the last time I saw Lt. De-Courcy alive.

Question. "Did Lt DeCourcy offer any objection when you ordered him to fall out?"

Answer "No"

Question. "Did he offer any objection when he was told to ride in the truck after getting out of the jeep?"

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FOURTH WITNESS: (Con'd)

Answer. "No"

RP 83B has been complied with.

FIFTH WITNESS:

Capt A. Ingham - Training Officer - 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC having been duly sworn states:

"As Training Officer I was acting as Range Officer on the 25th June at the Farnham Range. I detailed the officers for the firing point and the butts for the 7th Recce Regimental shoot and was requested by Capt. J. G. Thatcher of the RCAMC to lend him three officers to supervise the RCAMC firing on the adjoining range to our left. The only officer available at that time w as Lt De-Courcy who had arrived by truck. I asked him if he had been detailed for any duty and he said no. I then requested him to report to Capt Thatcher to act as firing point officer. The 7th Recce Regiment arrived shortly afterwards and Lts Leeson and Gray were detailed to report to Lt DeCourcy for duties."

Question. "When you requested Lt DeCourcy to act as firing point officer for the RCAMC did he in any way indicate to you that he was not well and preferred not to take on this duty."

Answer. "No"

RP 83B has been complied with

SIXTH WITNESS:

D-404416 Tpr WALKER, F.A. - Signal Troop - 7 (R)
Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC having been duly sworn
states:

"I was detailed to act as signal clerk with the Medical Corps. Lt. DeCourcy was range officer and signals were given by him during the morning. At approximately 1135 hours he exchanged duties with Lt. Leeson. From then on he stood beside me relaying instructions from the firing point. At approximately 1215 hours orders were given to cease firing and to break off for lunch. While I was closing the communications with the butt party Lt. DeCourcy started to cross to the 17th lines with SSM Martin. A moment or so later Lt. Gray, Lt. Leeson and myself followed. On approaching the ditch just before the road we noticed someone lying on the bank. SSM Martin had crossed and had come back. SSM Ablett who was walking up the road, also crossed the ditch. Lt. Leeson and SSM Martin loosened Lt. DeCourcy's belt and tie and called the Medical Corps officers over immediately, two coming over right away. Upon examination they announced the case a very serious one. The officer in charge

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SIXTH WITNESS: (con'd)

of the Medical Corps, who had been in the butts until after the order to cease firing, came along and asked how serious the case was. The Medical Officers examining Lt. DeCourcy said it definitely was an ambulance case."

Question. "Did Lt. DeCourcy seem in good health to you"?

Answer "Yes. He seemed to be and I saw no evidence of him being in ill health".

Question. "Did Lt DeCourcy at any time express verbally that he was not feeling well?"

Answer. "No"

RP 83B ha s been complied with.

SEVENTH WITNESS:

Lieut E. W. Leeson - "HQ" Sqn - 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC having been duly sworn states:-

"On the morning of Sunday 25th June 1944 Lt Gray and I were detailed to assist on the Firing Point of the left Farnham Range, where the RCAMC were already firing. We found Lt. DeCourcy already on the job directing the firing.

Lt. DeCourcy continued his job in a perfect manner, and after two details had fired I relieved him at his request, but he did not complain of sickness, and merely changed jobs with me (i.e. supervising five firers, Lt. Gray looking after the other five).

Shortly after 1230 hours the three of us, along with SSM Martin, left the RCAMC to lunch with our own people. Lt. DeCourcy was ahead with SSM Martin; we followed. Then Lt. Gray and I saw him on the ground on his back, with the lower part of his legs in the ditch. Lt Gray and I looseded his belt and collar, and I called for "Doctor". Two doctors were on the scene, with several other RCAMC personnel, inside fifteen seconds.

Both doctors agreed he was in a bad way and someone called for an ambulance. Members of the RCAMC applied artificial respiration, which was continued until the ambulance arrived then Lt Gray and I walked over to our lines."

Question. "Did you notice if Lt. DeCourcy showed any signs of ill health?"

Answer. "No. He seemed to be well and doing a thorough job."

RP 83B has been complied with.

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EIGHTH WITNESS:

Lieut A Gray - "HQ" Sqn - 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC having been duly sworn states:-

On Sun 25 Jun 44 on arrival at the Ranges I was detailed along with Lt Leeson to report to Lt. DeCourcy for duty with the RCAMC.

I was with Lt DeCourcy all morning. He was giving the fire orders, while Lt Leeson and I exercised general supervision over the firers.

About 1100 hours Lt DeCourcy asked me if he was giving the proper fire orders, I told him that he was doing a good job and that everything was in perfect order. Although I did not attach any significance to it at the time, I did notice that his general bearing throughout the morning w as much quieter than usual, but he did not say anything to me about not feeling well.

At approximately 1230 hours we prepared to rejoing our own regiment for lunch. I stopped to pick up my equipment and when I looked up again I saw Lt DeCourcy crossing the field towards our own lines. At this point Lt. Leeson joined me and we started off across the field together. I could see no sign of Lt. DeCourcy then. When we reached the ditch we both spotted a man lying on his back. We thought it was someone resting. When we got up to him we found it was Lt DeCourcy obviously in trouble.

Lt. Leeson immediately called out for a doctor and within a matter of seconds the doctor was on the spot examining him.

Lt. Leeson and I left at this stage. They had a lready started to apply artificial respiration.

RP 83B has been complied with.

NINTH WITNESS:

D-403423 SSM MARTIN, S.A.(MM)- Asst Instructor - 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC having been duly sworn states:-

On Sunday 25 Jun 44 I was on duty at the firing point at Farnham Ranges with Lieut DeCourcy.

Lt. DeCourcy appeared to me to be in good health and did not act in any manner to indicate otherwise.

The order to cease fire and to break for lunch came through at about 1225 hours. I walked away from the firing point with Lt DeCourcy and he passed a remark about not feeling too well but did not give me the impression that it was anything serious.

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NINTH WITNESS: (con'd)

I had been walking a little bit in front of Lt De-Courcy when SSM Ablett called to me and on looking around I saw Lt DeCourcy lying on the ground. I hurried over to him and found him lying on his back. Lt. Leeson then joined me and as we saw his face was blue we loosened his clothing and Lt Leeson called for a doctor who was nearby and two doctors came over together immediately and took charge.

Question.. "Were you with him continuously all morning?"

Answer. "Yes, but he had not complained to me during that time of feeling ill."

RP 83B has been complied with.

TENTH WITNESS:

D-402593 SSM ABLETT, A. - Asst Instructor - 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC having been duly sworn states:-

On Sunday 25th June 1944 at approximately 1230 hrs I was standing on the right side of the road facing the firing point where the Medical Corps were breaking off for lunch. I saw SSM Martin and Lt DeCourcy walking across the field towards me. As they reached the side of the ditch near the road, SSM Martin who was a little ahead, jumped across the ditch and started walking along the road towards the hut. Lt DeCourcy was almost at the side of the ditch then. I started walking towards the road and when a few feet away, spoke to SSM Martin for a few seconds, during which time I was looking at Lt DeCourcy a s he reached the ditch and prepared to jump across. I saw him stumble and fall backwards, but thought he had only slipped. When he did not get up I thought he may have hurt himself so I jumped the ditch and went to him. He was lying on his back, frothing slightly at the mouth, blue in the face, and was moaning very weakly. I said to him, "What's wrong, Johnny?" but received no answer SSM Martin who had seen me jump the ditch had followed and was quite close behind me and I said to him, "Something's wrong with Mr DeCourcy". I started to undo Lt DeCourcy's equipment and by this time SSM Martin had arrived and he raised Lt De-Courcy's head and started to open his shirtfront. By this time others had seen us bending over someone and came over to us. I did not look up being intent on trying to help Lt DeCo urcy, so I cannot say just who was there at that particular moment. I felt Lt DeCourcy's pulse but could not feel any beat, so I stood up and looking towards the Medical Corps group, I waved and shouted, "Is there a doctor there?" Two officers came running over to us and while they were on the way I bent down over Lt DeCourcy



TENTH WITNESS: (con'd)

who had stopped moaning. His eyes were glassy and he was very blue down to his chest. One of our officers was working over him releasing the rest of his clothing about his waist. Also other members of the Unit had gathered around. The two Medical Officers arrived and took over. I then went back across the road and reported to Lt.-Col. B. C Hutchison the OC, Capt Newmark the Adjutant and Capt Ingham the Training Officer that Lt DeCourcy w as seriously ill, after which I returned to the road and on the request of the Medical Corps Captain, cleared the road of the onlookers.

RP 83B has been complied with.

ELEVENTH WITNESS:

Capt R Breitman - MO - 9 (R) Fd Amb RCAMC having been duly sworn states:-

On Sunday June 25th I accompanied my unit to the Farnham Ranges. About 1015 hrs Lt. DeCourcy of the 7th (R) Recce Regt reported to me and introduced himself and carried on as Firing Point Officer for the Medical Unit.

At 1230 hrs I was at the 100 yd Firing Point and heard Capt Thatcher cry "Get the MO". A Sergeant-Major of the 7th Recce rushed over to me and said a man had collapsed and required my services at once. Standing beside me was Lt Bateman, 9th Fd Ambulance, who went for the first aid kit while I ran over to the spot where a man was lying on the ground, a distance of about 25 yds. I identified the man as Lt DeCourcy. The man was already in extremis and no pulse was felt. He gave a few gasps and expired. A few seconds after I arrived there Lt Bateman also came to the place and we both made efforts at artificial respiration which did not help. At the same time Capt Thatcher, who was standing by, sent for the ambulance which arrived in a few minutes. The deceased was placed on a stretcher and put in the ambulance. As a Medical Officer it was my opinion that the man had suffered an acute heart attack causing instantaneous death.

Question. "Did you observe Lt DeCourcy during his tour of duties and did he appear in good health?"

Ahswer. "Yes. I observed his activities from the time he reported until about 1130 hrs, and he appeared normal."

Question. "How long did it take you to get to the spot where the man was lying?"

Answer. "About 20 seconds."

200



TWEFTH WITNESS:

Lt. J. H. Bateman - MO - 9 (R) Fd Amb RCAMC having been duly sworn states:-

On June 25th 1944 I accompanied my unit to the Farnham Camp ranges. At about 1000 hours a Lt from the 7th (R) Recce Regt presented himself as Lt DeCourcy and took over duties as Firing Point Officer as had been requested by Capt. Thatcher. While I was there, until about 1130 hours, Lt. DeCourcy appeared to be in normal health, carrying on his duties in a normal manner. About 1230 hrs Capt Breitman and I were called over to find a man lying on the ground who we later identified as Lt DeCourcy. On arrival we had asked what had happened and were told he had fallen. We immediately examined him and found him lying on his back, very cyanosed, completely unconscious and the only visible sign of life was two or three short gasps. I listened to his heart with my ear and could not hear any heartbeat. It was then my considered opinion that the man was already dead, and that the cause, in my opinion, was coronary thrombosis. Nevertheless we practised artificial respiration while waiting for the ambulance, which had been called.

When the ambulance arrived we put Lt DeCourcy on a stretcher in the ambulance and rushed him to the Farnham Military Hospital. I accompanied the ambulance and on arrival at the hospital called for Capt Gingras the MO in charge of the hospital. He also examined the body and declared Lt. DeCourcy was dead on arrival. The Coroner for Bedford District, Dr P. Boileau w as called and I gave him my report a s to what had taken place. The coroner examined the body and verified the death.

I then returned to my unit at the range.
RP 83B has been complied with.

APPENDICES:

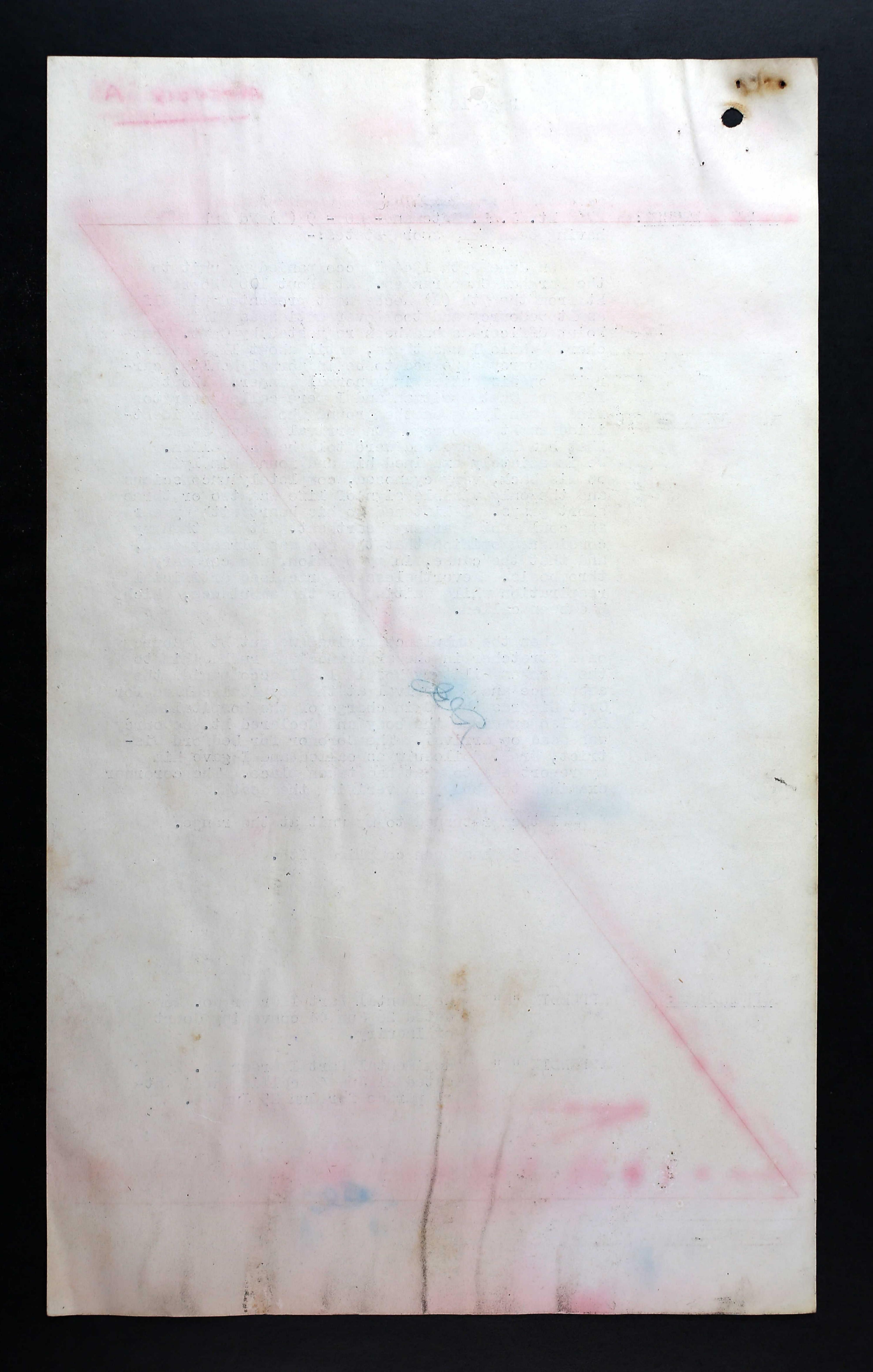
APPENDIX "A"

Regimental Part I Order No. 26 dated 26 Jun 44 convening Court of Inquiry.

APPENDIX "B"

Regimental Part I Order No. 25 dated 21 Jun 44 calling Regimental parade for Sun 25 Jun 44.

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(J.D.Ross) Major Signed at (Signature) PRESIDENT 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC Montreal, Que (Unit) this.....Third..... (H.U. Banks) Lt (Signature) 7 (R) Recee Regt (17 DYRCH) (Unit) MEMBERS (C. Hough) Lt. (Signature) 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC (Unit)

Opinion of Commanding Officer:-

I certify that Lieut J.S. DeCourcy was on duty at the time of his death on Sunday 25th June 1944.

> (B.C.Hutchison) Lt.-Col. 7 (R) Recee Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC

(E. J. RENAUD) Major-General D.O.C., M.D. No. 4

FINDINGS

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The Court finds that Lieut J. S. De Courcy, 7 (R) Recce Regt (17 DYRCH) CAC died while at Farnham Rifle Ranges on Sunday 25th June 1944 at about 1230 hours.

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Department of National Defence

- ARMY-

Ottawa, Canada,

8th Feb., 1945.

Mrs. Helen De Courcy, 4745 Queen Mary Road, Apt. 3, Montreal 26, P.Q.

Dear Madam: -

With reference to the regretted death of the late soldier noted below, will you please note that it is desired for the purpose of completing records in his respect to obtain full particulars relating to his death and burial.

If this grave is situated within the Dominion of Canada, authority exists for the erection of a memorial on the grave at the expense of the Canadian Government. Will you, therefore, kindly complete and return this form, an addressed envelope, which requires no postage stamp, being enclosed for your convenience.

Yours truly,

C.L. Laurin, Colonel, Director of Records, for Adjutant-General.

6

NO 1-40+200 Rank Lieutenant Name John S. DE COURCY
Unit Canadian Armoure Date of Death 25-6-44. Religion Roman Cath
Next of Kin Helen Josephine de Courcy Relationship Wife:
Address 4745 Lucen Mary Rd. Montreal, que
Place of death Farnham, fee Cause farmary thrombous
Name of Cemetery (ate des Meix
Cemetery located at Montreal, que la
Location of grave in cemetery # 2729 - Section 8.4.
Is this grave marked in any way?
Remarks and description of marker, if any
Signature of informant Nelew de Caurey
Address 4745 Tuem Mary Rd, Montrell, June
72-39-376

Nat. Def. A-168 H.Q. 1772-39-376 500M-7-40 (5938-9-40).



THE CANADIAN PENSION COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM

ToD	eputy Min	nister,		
			National	
From	The C	anadiar	Pension	Commission

OTTAWA, January 27, 1945.....

ATTENTION:

Director of Records.

Dimpondexix maxix account for a committee from the contraction of the

Lieut. John S. DeCourcy - 7th Recce. Regt. X (#D-404203 - Reserve Army)

CXXXXX

JAN 29 1945

JAN 29 1945

Child 1947

The marginally named died

at

Farnham, Que.

on

June 25, 1944.

Cause of Death

Heart failure.

In the opinion of the Commission,

death was related to military service. (Reserve Force service).

Next of kin

Mrs. Helen deCourcy (widow), 4745 Queen Mary Road, Apt. 3, Montreal 26, Que.

E. Lackey

for

EL

Canadian Pension Commission.

Not on strength.

C A N A D A

PROVINCE DE QUEBEC
DISTRICT DE BEDFORD

CAS DE RECHERCHES

RAPPORT au sujet de la mort de John DeCourcy, 34, arrivée le ou vers le 25è jour de juin 1944, à Farnham, Qué.;

M. Dr Gingras; CIRCONSTANCES de la mort telles que données par

"la victime arrivait de Montréal au camp militaire de Farnham. Elle se plaignit qu'elle ne se sentait pas aussi bien que d'habitude; une couple d'heures après, elle s'affaissa; un médecin sur les lieux constata qu'environ une minute après le coeur avait cessé de battre."

LES RECHERCHES faites établissent que la mort était due à syncope cardiaque, qu'elle n'était imputable à crime à qui que ce soit, ni à la négligence de personne; qu'aucun crime ne l'avait accompagnée ou précédée et qu'il n'y avait pas lieu de tenir une enquête regulière.

NOUS, soussigné, Greffier de la Paix dans et pour le district de Bedford, certifions que le présent est un extrait fidèle du rapport du Coroner sur les recherches faites concernant la mort de John DeCourcy.-

TEMOIN Notre Seing et le Sceau de la Couronne, au Palais de Justice, à Sweetsburg, dit district de Bedford, ce 28 juillet 1944.

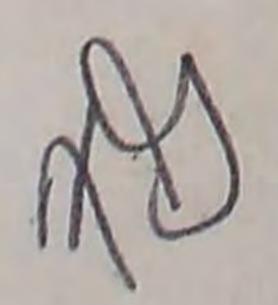
Elisee Gaudet

Greffier de la Paix
DISTRICT DE BEDFORD 24 Aug 44

Certified True Copy of the Original.

DIRECTORATE OF PERSONAL SERVICES

Original Duplicato	Personal File 338-D-14
Triplicate Quadruplicate	Related Unit File
	77-6-17
Section of Originlal	Date Reveived17-6-43
(A) PRESENT STATUS	
Personal No	
MRank (A.F.)	
(11) Mame, Etc. John Steven min D	eCourcy
(iii) Unit (R.F.)	************
Unit (A.F.)	
(iv) Detailed for duty	************
Attached, Posted or Seconded	•••••••
(v) Federal Civil Servant?	Concurred in by
(B) RECOMMENDATION	Treasury Board
(i)Draft Gazette Entry: R.F. CAVALRY	
	() To be Prov. 2nd Lt.: John
The medice medice in the land	TO DE LLO VO SHU TIOS OCITIL
	DeCourcy. 7th June, 1943.
Steven	
Steven (ii)Data for C.A.R.Os.:	
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(ii)Data for C.A.R.Os.: (C) APPROVAL AND NOTIFICATION (i)Notification sent to	DeCourcy. 7th June, 1943. C. 4 17-6-43 J.H. Williams Pers lal Captain Initials Date 28/6/
(ii)Data for C.A.R.Os.: (C) APPROVAL AND NOTIFICATION (i)Notification sent to	DeCourcy. 7th June, 1943. C. 4. 17-6-43 J.H. Williams Pers lal Captain Initials Date 236 A. d/ Pers 2B3
(ii)Data for C.A.R.Os.: (C) APPROVAL AND NOTIFICATION (i)Notification sent to	DeCourcy. 7th June, 1943. C. 4. 17-6-43 J.H. Williams Pers lal Captain Initials Date 236 A. d/ Pers 2B3
(ii)Data for C.A.R.Os.: (C) APPROVAL AND NOTIFICATION (i)Notification sent to	DeCourcy. 7th June, 1943. C. 4. 17-6-43 J.H. Williams Pers lal Captain Initials Date 236 A. d/ Pers 2B3
(ii)Data for C.A.R.Os.: (C) APPROVAL AND NOTIFICATION (i)Notification sent to	DeCourcy. 7th June, 1943. C. 4 17-6-43 J.H. Williams Pers lal. Captain Initials Date 23/6/ Pers 283 P. & R. Pers 284







DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

ARMY

Montreal, Que., 1 July 44.

1944 JUL 20 15:08

The Secretary, Department of National Defence, Ottawa, Canada.

2/Lt. (T/Lt.) S.J. DeCOURCY 7th (R) Recce. Regt., (17H)

CENTRAL REGISTRY Army PERS. SEC. ORGAN ED.

It is regretted to advise that the marginally-named Officer died on the 25th June,

(E.J. Renaud), Ma jor-General, District Officer Commanding, Military District/No. 4.

!AT. DEF. B. 440 30LAM-12-43 (3263) H.Q. 1772-39-767

H.Q. 338-D-14 (Pers. 1(a)1)

OTTAWA, Ontario, 17th June,

3

District Officer Commanding, Military District No. 4, MONTREAL, P.Q.

Appointment - Sgt. John Steven DeCOURCY 7th (R) Recce. Regt. (17H)C.A.C.

Reference M.F.B. 287, M.11-D-1267 dated 12th June, 1943, the appointment of the marginally named N.C.O. to the 7th (Res) Reconnaissance Regiment (17H) C.A.C. in the rank of Provisional 2nd Lieutenant is approved, effective 7th June, 1943.

(H.F.G. Letson), Whajor-General, Adjutant-General.